## AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE OF TEXAS

## EXTENSION SERVICE

CHARLES H. ALFORD, DIRECTOR

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICUL-TURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

(The Agriultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating)

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COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

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## TERRACES

## A GOOD INVESTMENT

An Investment of \$2.50 per Acre in Terraces Frequently Yields an Annual Dividend of \$10.00 per Acre.

Here are some reasons why farmers are terracing their farms:

To stop gullying.

To stop sheet washing.

To hold rainfall on the land. (Notice: West Texas Farmers).

To prevent loss of crop stand.

To prevent washing off of vegetable matter.

To keep hillside sand from covering bottom land.

To hold commercial fertilizer or manure on the land.

To keep hillside soil from filling ditches on bottom land.



IS YOUR FARM WASHING AWAY LIKE THIS?

Here are some suggestions as to how to go about terracing your farm:

Look field over before starting. Consider future changes in fields.

Select best outlets.

Run lines with an instrument.

Set up stakes before running plow. Avoid sharp bends in plowing line.

Begin building on the top terrace.

Build broad base terraces.

Don't start more than will be finished.

Build terrace ridges in the cheapest way.

Push dirt down hill if tools will permit.

Puild down in gullies bigher than townson

Build dams in gullies higher than terrace. Get dirt for dams just above the terrace.

Make terrace outlets wide and shallow.

Watch for breaks, and repair at once.

Run rows with the terrace.

Plant something on terrace ridges.

After terracing, and also before, some of the following practices, selected with respect to soil and climate conditions, will aid in holding and rebuilding your soil:

Plow or list across the slope instead of up and down hill.

Practice deep fall and winter plowing. Plow under stalks and other vegetation. Grow legumes.

Plant velvet beans and cowpeas between wide rows of corn or grain sorghum.

Rotate row crops with a sowed crop, using cane, sudan grass, or sweet clover for poor soils.

Plant winter cover crops, such as burr clover or small grain.

Scatter straw stacks and barnyard man-

Use commercial fertilizers.

IS YOUR FARM PROTECTED BY TERRACES LIKE THIS?

Further information on terracing may be obtained from your County Agricultural Agent. Bulletins on terracing may be obtained from Charles H. Alvord, Director, College Station, Texas.